

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

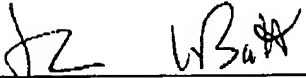
Serial No.: 10/092,816 Conf. No.: 8009
Filing Date: 03/07/2002 Art Unit: 3765
Applicant: Ferraioli Examiner: Smith, James G.
Title: FOOTWEAR DONNING DEVICE Docket No.: FERR-0001

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

DESTINATION PHONE NUMBER: 703-746-8431

Transmitted herewith is: **Proposed Amendment in 2 pages**
in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 500999 as described below.
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
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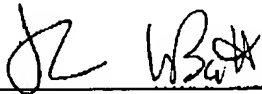
John W. LaBatt, Reg. No. 48,301

DATE: April 16, 2004

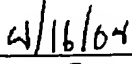
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John LaBatt
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PROPOSED AMENDMENT - DO NOT ENTER

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Applicant:	Ferraioli	Examiner:	Smith, James G.
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Sir:

This proposed amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated March 3, 2004 and telephone interview conducted on April 15, 2004.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner and his supervisor for their time in discussing the rejected claim 1. During the conversation, claim 1 was discussed with reference to U.S. Patent No. 6,283,341 (Wilkerson), U.S. Patent No. 6,065,654 (Evensen), U.S. Patent No. 6,056,171 (Santamaria), and U.S. Patent No. 1,690,516 (Wickers). Language to clarify the unique functionality of the fore handle as shown in, for example, FIGS. 11-14 was discussed. Applicant herein provides the proposed amended claim 1 for consideration in light of this discussion. No exhibits were presented during the discussion.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT - DO NOT ENTER

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLAIM 1

The following amended claim 1 is provided for preliminary consideration by the Examiner.

1. (Currently amended) A footwear donning device, comprising:

a carriage for holding the footwear;

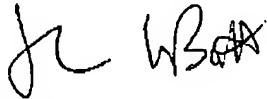
a fore handle coupled to the carriage, wherein the fore handle is flexible to ~~move around a~~
heel conform to the heel of a user along a substantial portion of a length of the fore handle; and

a handle coupled to the fore handle for donning the footwear.

Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance. After considering this proposed amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact

Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: April 16, 2004